

REVELATION – CHAPTER 21

Vs 1

I saw (vs 2 & vs 22)
A new Heaven and a new Earth
Isa 65:17; 66:22; 2 Pet 3:13

The old have disappeared.
No sea on it; possibly only a river flowing from the Throne of God.
Rev 22:2

The Millennial Earth will have bodies of water upon it.
Ps 72:8-11 (the Millennial reign)
Isa 11:9, 11; Ezk 47:10, 15, 17, 18, 20 etc
John is apparently struck by the fact that no seas exist on the New Earth.

Vs 2

New Jerusalem, the Holy City, in contrast to Rev 11:8, comes down out of Heaven.
It was not just created; it had existed prior to this time and God sends it down.
Heb 12:22-24; Jn 14:2
A city having the freshness and beauty of a bride adorned for marriage, for her husband.

Vs 3

That which has been promised has become reality!
The Tabernacle of God is with men. Rev 13: 6
The Tabernacle of God has moved to the New earth.
What does this mean?
1. God will dwell among men
2. They shall be His people
3. God Himself will be among them.

Vs 4

He will wipe away every tear (singular)
1. The comfort of God, not the remorse of His children is the focus.
2. The tears refer to tears shed on earth, as believers endured suffering, rather than tears shed in Heaven because of human failure.
3. In the same vein, no more sorrow as a result of death, crying or pain.

4. Not only will the old heaven and earth pass away but also all "The Fall" associations that belonged to them.

Vs 5 He who sits upon the Throne says "I am making all things new".
John is again told to write....

Vs 6 The Alpha and the Omega
The Beginning and the End
The First and the Last Rev 22:13
The Living One Rev 2:18
I was dead and behold I am alive
The Almighty Rev 1:8
To the one who thirsts...the water of life
Rev 7:17; Jn 4:10, 13-14

Vs 7 Overcomers will inherit
Matt 19:29
Matt 25:34-40
Rev 2:7, 17
(More than 1 Jn 4:4; 5:4-5 ? 1 Jn 2:13)
I will be their God and He will be My Son.

Vs 8 The end which awaits the lost – The inheritance of unbelief
That which separates the two lists 1 Cor 6:9-11

washing Eph 5:25-27; Titus 3:5
sanctification 1 Pet 1:1-2; 1 Cor 1:30-31
justification 2 Thes 2:13-14

Second death Rev 20:15 (Rev 2:11)
Jn 5:24 The second death is "coming into
judgment" or "come into condemnation"
1 Cor 15:22
1 Thess 4:13-14

Vs 9-11 The New Jerusalem as the bride

As in Rev 21:2, the comparison of the city with a bride stresses its beauty and its close relation to Jesus.

John is shown the Heavenly city of Jerusalem in much the same

way that Moses was shown the Promised Land.

Deut 34:1-3

Again as in Rev 21:2:

Holy city

coming down

out of heavens

from God

The city reflected the light of God and at the same time was crystal clear.

Vs 12-14

The wall and the gates of the city

Wall

1. great and high

The Gates

1. 12 in number (city is square) 3 gates per side

2. guarded by 12 angels

3. inscribed with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel

Ezk 48:30-34

4. built upon 12 foundation stones, each one inscribed with an
'Apostle's name.

NOTE: By mentioning both the Apostles and the Tribes of Israel in relation to Eternity future, God never replaces Israel with the Church!

They remain distinct bodies, along with the Gentiles, Rev 21:24 throughout Eternity.

Further information concerning both the walls and the gates will be given in verses 18-21

Vs 15-17

The Dimensions of the City

Using a rod, a measure is about 10 feet long.

The City is square.

A furlong (KJV) is equal to 582 feet, the measured distance is equivalent to 1,342 miles – often stated as 1500 miles.

Thus, the city is 1,342 miles square.

The angel also measures the wall as being 216 feet high.

Angels and humans would measure it the same!

Vs 18-21 Further descriptions.
1. The walls are jasper.
2. The city as a whole, is pure gold though like clear glass in appearance.
3. The foundation stones are covered with precious stones
4. Each of the 12 gates is a single pearl
5. The street of the city was transparent gold

Vs 22 The Temple of the City – There is none.
No longer is there any need for a structure for man to be aware of the presence of God, God Himself is present.

Vs 23-24 The Light of the City
No need of a light source – God is there!
All of the city is transparent because God's light reflects throughout it.
Believing Gentiles, prior and post church age, will populate the Eternal kingdom. God has included a remnant from all!
All three categories of humanity will continue separately.
As we saw in our study of Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar never became Hebrew, but he may well have become a believer.

Vs 25-27 Access to the City
Again, God has made everything for its own purpose and the Gentiles are one of those creations.

Vs 27 stresses the fact that nothing will affect the new creation as Satan afflicted the old.